

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A chromatographic process [for] comprising separating saccharide monomers from saccharide dimers and/or saccharide trimers from saccharide dimers, in a feed solution having a saccharide dimer content of ~~more than~~ 65 to 85 weight % on dry solids basis and having an amount of saccharide monomers and/or trimers of less than 10 weight % on dry solids basis, wherein an ion exchange resin with a degree of crosslinking of 5 to 8% is used when saccharide monomers are separated from saccharide dimers, and an ion exchange resin with a degree of crosslinking of 2 to 4.5% is used when saccharide trimers are separated from saccharide dimers, the process resulting in a separated saccharide dimer fraction by removal of at least 75% of the saccharide trimers from the feed solution and/or by removal of at least 65% of the saccharide monomers from the feed solution, and resulting in a dimer fraction containing 90 to 96 weight% of disaccharide on dry solids basis and a yield of saccharide dimer of over 85 weight % on dry solids basis.

2.-4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the saccharide dimer is maltose, maltitol or sucrose.

6. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the saccharide dimer is cellobiose, cellobitol, xylobiose or xylobitol.

7. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the saccharide monomer is glucose, fructose or sorbitol.

8. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a strong acid cation exchange resin.

9. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the crosslinked cation exchange resin is a gel type strong acid cation exchange resin.
10. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the saccharide-containing feed solution is derived from starch.
11. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 10, wherein the feed solution is derived by saccharification of liquefied starch with pullulanase and beta-amylase.
12. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 11, wherein the feed solution is derived further by treatment with maltogenic alpha-amylase and subsequent saccharification with low temperature alpha amylase, optionally followed by a final saccharification with maltogenic alpha-amylase.
13. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the separation is effected at a temperature in the range of 65 to 90° C.
14. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the separation is effected at a temperature of 80° C ~~or more~~.
15. (Previously Presented) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the saccharide dimer is a sugar alcohol, and the process further comprises the step of crystallizing the sugar alcohol.
16. (Previously Presented) The process according to claim 15, wherein the sugar alcohol is maltitol.
17. (Cancelled)
18. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has a saccharide monomer and/or saccharide trimer content of less than 1.5 [[– 10]] weight % on dry solids basis.

19. (Currently Amended) The process according to Claim 1, wherein the feed solution has a saccharide monomer and/or saccharide trimer content of less than [[1.5 –]] 3 weight % on dry solids basis.

20.-21. (Cancelled)